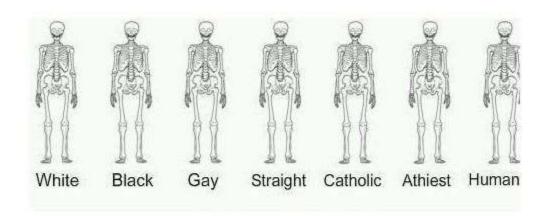


STOMPING OUT RACISM

BY CHALLENGING IT ONE SENTENCE AT A TIME





LET'S TALK ABOUT RACISM, BABY

LET'S TALK ABOUT YOU AND ME,

LET'S TALK ABOUT ALL THE GOOD THINGS, AND THE BAD THINGS THAT MAY BE.

Do you want to grab a drink? Great. What do you want to talk about?

Seriously, why did you say that? I won't lighten up. You think it's OK because it is just us? You think it's OK because there is no one around who'd find it offensive.

You're wrong: I'm offended; I want to grow. I don't want us to be those people. I hate saying those people, emphasis on those.

How do you think what you just said improves...anything? It doesn't. It spreads hatred. Because it was prevalent years ago, it does not make it OK now. Newsflash: it wasn't OK years ago.

I don't want to talk about racism. I don't want to hear racist crap. I hate my friends when they say things, they think are OK. I hate them more when they seek validation from me, or when they think their matter-of-fact hate-fuelled comments are anything but hate-filled.

I slip the odd comment in, I despise myself when I do. I need to grow. I can't grow around you when you perpetuate ignorance. I don't want to be ignorant.

People who slip toxic verbiage into a conversation don't seem to understand:

- 1. Saying something is no big deal is a big fucking deal.
- When they say, let's talk about something else; they are correct; nobody wants to have these conversations. Most people wish we had evolved past bigotry. The only reason we are talking about uncomfortable subjects is they continue to be fucking racist.

WHY DID I START THIS PAGE?

Because I want to be the best person I can be, and therefore, any time someone I know tosses out derogatory garbage, I listen...shamefully, I hear slurs amongst people I know, almost every day. This makes me sad.

WHY?

Because much like those who continue to spread hate, I'd prefer to talk about anything else.

But?

The second second

I won't remain silent.

That's what this page is about. SPEAKING UP Because if I (we) don't, one day, friends will become friends.

That's the way it must be if I (we) want to grow.

I OVERHEARD THE OWNER OF A COMPANY

I WAS WORKING FOR \rightarrow DURING A MANAGEMENT MEETING SAY \rightarrow

DON'T BOTHER CALLING ON BROWN PROSPECTS

BECAUSE THEY STICK TO THEIR OWN KIND

How Do You Define →

RACIST HYPOCRITE?

OWNER

I LOOKED AROUND THE TABLE \rightarrow

SIX $CAUCASIANS <math>\rightarrow$

FIVE OF THEM LIVE IN THE SAME CITY \rightarrow FOUR OF THEM ATTENDED THE SAME PREDOMINATELY WHITE HIGH SCHOOL \rightarrow I WAS THE ONLY ONE FROM A DIFFERENT PROVINCE \rightarrow

WE MUST NOT LET IT FESTER.

WHO IS LINDSAY WINCHERAUK?

Indsay Wincherauk is a fearless writer. He has published two books and has had more than eighteen OPEDs appear in major commuter newspapers. Lindsay wasn't born with a silver spoon in his mouth. His father (who wasn't his father) worked as a mechanic. His mother (who wasn't his mother) worked as an excellent chef in a diner. In fact, his birth was in a secret place where | society deemed | unfit mothers were sent to give birth in isolation—shading families from shame. If the babies survived being born, usually, they were sold to wealthy Americans or adopted out to farm families.

Lindsay's life began with a lie.

Despite Lindsay's perilous beginnings, starting with deception, Lindsay knew no better and went through life excelling at things, usually in two-year stints. Be that athletics (hall of fame, record holding, one-eyed quarterback), scholastically, career-wise (generating more than \$70 million in revenue for one company), socially, + without question: creatively!

Lindsay's challenging beginning instilled in Lindsay heaping doses of compassion and empathy. Lindsay's life starting out as a lie gave him a keen sense to spot BS from miles away. It also provided him with a dry sense of humour and an understanding those born with silver spoons in their mouths will never be self-aware enough to understand (or admit) their good fortune.

During Lindsay's work career, he was well-liked by all coworkers. Lindsay was also well respected by his diverse collection of clients, developing several fantastic friendships, primarily because Lindsay is known for his unflinching integrity and ability to hold conversations on most topics.

Lindsay's life mantra is:

The most valuable part of life is the fabulous people we meet during our journeys. If you treat people with respect (leaving judgment at the door), and more importantly, by opening doors for those less fortunate or who can't speak up for themselves, you are living a good, compassionate life. Making money at all costs is not the only thing mattering. Life can be difficult + devastatingly unfair.

Lindsay believes sharing vulnerability is what makes us human. Lindsay will never shy away from being honest about his pain.

Lindsay also believes we must stand up for ourselves, + more importantly, for those who are too burdened by the injustices of life, they can't find the strength to stand up for themselves.

SOME THINGS LINDSAY IS MOST PROUD OF ARE WHEN:

- A sixty-year-old employee of his, who had entered a point of life where life had become more struggle than joy (it happens to all of us as we age), said to Lindsay, "I must thank you. I've listened to how you treat people, + by listening, I've learned so much about compassion and patience. Thank you. I consider you a great friend."
- Another employee who was struggling with addiction thanked Lindsay for his kindness, presenting Lindsay with a Christmas card from him and his girlfriend. Tucked inside the card: lottery tickets.

LINDSAY WINCHERAUK, compassionate, empathetic, well-read, kind, blessed with unflinching integrity, humour in balance, loved by coworkers + friends alike.

Lindsay will always stick up for the underdog. Lindsay understands there are countless older people suffering job loss because COVID gave some companies an opportunity to —

Lindsay thinks it is essential to draw attention to this life-threatening issue by being the voice for those too broken to speak up for themselves.

Lindsay is currently pitching four manuscripts to publishers and literary agencies. One of the manuscripts (he can't talk about) will blow the roof off the predatory practices of —

Lindsay is writing relentlessly and is also pitching OPEDs and short stories, fiction, + non to literary magazines around the globe.

Lindsay has appeared on Breakfast Television, radio programs in Montreal, + several others in the Vancouver area. Lindsay has also been a featured guest on CKNW + CBC, both on several occasions. And Lindsay was a vital witness of a Hate Crime. This led to the first Hate Crime conviction in Canadian legal history, resulting in him being a speaker at an Enough is Enough Rally (anti-violence rally) with dignitaries, politicians, law enforcement, and community leaders in front of a crowd of approximately five thousand.

Lindsay was the **#1 MIXED-TAPE DJ** at the UNIVERSITY OF **S**ASKATCHEWAN for most of the nineteen-eighties, a fact bringing him joy.

Lindsay resides in Vancouver.